ing season that Sir Philip Falconer, riding | pected fellow-sufferer. This was a certain in his usual reckless fashion at a blind Miss Allfrey, whose mother, among other fence, met with an accident which proved | neighboring residents, had called on Lady almost instantaneously fatal, and it was Falconer, and whose air of patient, subnot until after Christmas that his window, | dued melancholy attracted the latter's nositting in the drawing room of the house | tice from the outset. Mr. Allfrey and the in Wilton crescent, whither she had re- rest of the family were pleasant, commonmoved to make way for Sir Philip's heir, place sort of people, whose civilities extold herself how relieved, how thankful, acted no marked return from a stranger how overjoyed she was to be a widow. As still in deep mourning; but Gladys looked this was the first time that she had formu- as if she might be worth cultivating, and lated such sentiments, even in the secrecy | was accordingly cultivated. The two young | you think he is a member?" of her own heart, and as she had never | women (for Ethel Falconer was Gladys band, it must be admitted that her honesty was not incompatible with due regard of more or less reserved order were in due foreboding had driven the color out of her for conventional propriety.

For the rest, if she had never loved poor Philip she had never disliked that stalwart, good-humored sportsman, had never contemplated an event so improbable as his demise, and had done her best to make him happy during the two years of their married life. That the termination of their married life filled her with a joyous, exhilarating sense of liberty was, perhaps, hardly her fault, nor was it her fault that she had the best of reasons for longing to be once more deprived of that boon. Her had been of the best, as had likewise been that of Ronald Shute, who, she knew, was in London; for she had seen him in Piccathe previous day. Ronald and she had met too late immediately after her marriage, had speedily and avowedly recognized that parted, heroically rejecting less worldly al-Yet it had been understood rather a long word. Eighteen months, however, cannot be called a very long time, nor had Ethel Falconer any misgivings as to her lover's constancy. Only he had not, so far, called upon her or written to her, and she thought that he was, in all probability, waiting for a signal. What sort of a signal, she wondered, ought it to be? She essayed several, beginning respectively with "My own dear Ronald," "Dearest Friend," and "Dear Captain Shute," but, not being quite satisfied with the words which followed any of these openings, tore them all up and finally dispatched one of her cards to his club, merely inscribing upon it: "At home always between 5 and

For a week-a whole agitated, increasingly anxious week-she did remain at home between 5 and 6 o'clock every day without result; then, in a fit of restless, childish impatience which so often, under such circumstances, prompts us to spite ourselves with a vague hope of disappointing our disappointers, she selected the hour that she had named to pay a visit to her dressmaker, and when she returned, there, sure enough, was Captain Shute's card legend "P. P. C." Her heart sank within her while she stared at thase significant capitals. What could he have meant? "Did this gentleman ask if I was at

home?" she sharply inquired.

But the stupid, impassive butler "really last of these questions she answered for on the following afternoon by a lady friend ment. What the lady did not know, and I tenacity to the faith that was in them. could not very well be asked, was whether -and, if so, why?-Captain Shute had deferred his application for employment on

Although Lady Falconer did not sleep very well that night, hope and faith came to her aid in the morning. To love is, or perhaps, that on the eve of his departure | will be cleared up some day." he should have been too busy to transmit | "That is just how I feel," Gladys re- hand, in walked Miss Gladys Allfrey. Upon he would tell me all about it later." months; but that at the expiration of that eyes. time she would receive a reply of some sort | Had she been in her hostess's bedroom on such need. Ethel Falconer, whose wits do me one in return. Not a word to Gladys, seemed certain.

eventually die, and that the joys and sor- organs of vision illumined by other and him like a book, had wanted him to tell her trouble to explain. I understand as well as rows and heart-breaking anxieties which more turbulent emotions, for amongst the whether his heart belonged to his first love if you had confessed it what a shock I gave Bid them return at sight of this poor vase have belonged to our earthly sojourn will names of sundry invalided officers who had or to his second, and he had unconsciously, you last January, and I understand, alevaporate, leaving not a trace of their pas- just disembarked at Southampton was re- involuntarily, given her the answer for though I can't admire, your having incon- I pray that thou wilt let me, sage behind them. The spring of 1900, ever ported one the sight of which brought Lady which she had not been prepared. She took tinently taken to your heels. Wouldn't it Ask that thou wilt, in woman's tender grace, memorable to us who have lived through Falconer's heart into her mouth. Ronald it without wincing or faltering. She made have spared the poor girl a good deal of it, with its tidings of victory and irrepara- had returned, then, neither wounded nor some smiling observation about the super- needless misery to have come and told me ble loss, passed into summer. Pretoria was very ill, since it was stated that the in- fluity of introducing him to Miss Allfrey. frankly that times had changed, and people occupied, the struggle was (somewhat pre- valids, with a few specified exceptions, had and then, turning away, addressed herself maturely) declared to be at an end, and there was talk of the speedy return of warworn warriors. But the warriors did not return, nor did successive South African mails bring any letter to Lady Falconer, whose spirits fell and fell until she found herself within sight of despair. Nevertheless, she did not-would not-altogether despair. Amongst her acquaintances were many and many who were situated as she was, though not precluded, as she was, from bewailing their deprivations. The postal service was notoriously irregular and inefficient. There were plenty of wives who had not heard a word of their husbands for months; plenty of mothers who knew nothing definite about their sons. It was perfectly possible that a letter addressed to Captain Shute had failed to reach its destination; perfectly possible that a letter written by him had gone astray. Such reflections and such quasiconsolations must be made to count for what they are worth by the constitutionally sanguine in default of better.

London, however, with its daily rumors, its continuous stream of visitors, and its unceasing demand upon outward equanimity, ended by becoming unendurable. Early in July Lady Falconer flitted to a small country house in Kent which she hired for the summer months, and where she thought it might be easier to do the very hardest thing that poor mortals can be called upon to undertake namely, to wait. She did not at first find it so. The days were long in that charming, bosky retreat; the dreadful mail days, when she advanced to the scrutiny of her correspondence with trepidation and thrills of momentary hope, were not loss dreadful than they had been in Wilton grescent But after a time, as it fell out,

It was at the very beginning of the hunt- | she found solace in the society of an unexbeen in the least in love with her late hus- Allfrey's senior only by a year or two), therefore, made friends, and confidences course exchanged between them. By a -so they mutually confessed to one an- find out." other-in the same boat, inasmuch as each unusual step of imploring an explanation | Shute."

from their respective lovers. Glady's story, which she first divulged on a mail day when she chanced to find her new friend in tears, was pathetic, but, alas! scarcely perplexing. It was only too obvious that the man who, as she said, had unquestionably loved her, and had all but avowed his love, had bolted off to fight the Boers | most fortunate, for he happens to be quite because, when things came to extremes, he an old friend of mine, and it will be the had shrunk from taking the irrevocable step of marrying her. For, although she was pretty and her sad little face was enough to soften the hardest heart, she was not one of those women who are apt to make selfish men lose their heads. Lady i Falconer knew this, but did not say it. Nor did she blame her companion in sorrow for having written to the defaulting swain to sailed by pangs of compunction, had half a implore an explanation of his inexplicable mind to tell her the whole truth; but it is virtually to the same? She accounted for her tears by an avowal similar to that of which she had been made the recipient, and did not insist more than she could help ipon the somewhat more solid position that she held by reason of her lover's having in plain and impassioned language proclaimed

Gladys did not see that that made any great difference. She was sure, although she had not been verbally assured, of the fugitive's devotion; she was sure that she had not been willingly abandoned. The only thing that puzzled her was his persistent, obstinate silence. That, with regard to herself, was precisely what puzzled Ethel Falconer. She could understand it easily enough in this poor little girl's case, but it would have surprised her a good deal to hear that the poor little girl was able to form an equally easy surmise respecting hers. Of course, they did not tell one another what their mournful, compassionate fears were, but they had a good cry together, they embraced tenderly, and they agreed in the long run to throw all responsibility upon the postmaster general. That their respective epistolary appeals should have been deliberately left unacknowledged was, they both felt, inconceivable.

Thus were they enabled to be of some comfort to one another, and thus were they drawn together during the long, weary summer days which had nothing but periodical renewals of disappointment in store for them. A certain reticent delicacy kept them from demanding or volunteering particulars. They were both profoundly wretched. Social exigencies required of both some outward show of cheerfulness. It sufficed them to know what other people did not appear to suspect, and their mutual affection was autumn with gales and rains set leaves flying, and when Lady Falconer, not unually mentioned that Captain Shute had asked Gladys to accompany her to London, I just sailed for the seat of war in South an invitation which was gladly accepted. or he did not. In the former case he must | She herself chattered vivaciously, she drew Africa with the corps of Imperial Yeoman- They had by this time pretty well relin- naturally wish to be brought face to face her guests out. She contrived to give Ron- pletely happy!" ry in which he had been so fortunate as | quished hope, so far as letters were con- | with her; in the latter, an invitation word- | ald opportunities (noticing out of the corner

her friend one day, after they had estab- case, be rendered more comfortable by the permitted himself to chuckle and to whisper from the wars. I saw him this very day. the crops, in good years, rot in the field,

should be, to believe, and at a time when | think I could have helped writing if he | At the appointed hour on the appointed to ask, in the kindlest and most symevery able-bodied man of military training | had been wounded or ill; but his name has | evening in walked Captain Shute-a tall, | pathizing fashion: "Well, is it all right?" in England could not but feel ashamed to never appeared in the lists of casualties, deep-chested, handsome fellow, a little "I think it is," answered the girl, with a coner, who had been kindness in itself to of the Spanish "Aragon. stay idly at home, it was only natural that and I feel as if I must leave it to him to gaunt after months of sickness, yet with happy laugh. "Of course, he couldn't say her, she doubted whether Ethel had very Ronald should feel bound to go and take | make the next move, convinced though I | clear eyes which proclaimed the advent of | much." part in his country's battles. Natural, also, am that there is a misunderstanding which | convalescence. In he walked, and while he

through the post what her own perversity turned. "So long as he is safe and sound this his grey eyes waxed large and startled, had prevented him from conveying to her I can't quite bring myself to ask him a two bright spots of color shot up to his ing him to do that. She took possession of by word of mouth. So she wrote him a second time what is the matter, but in my cheek-bones. In the flash of a few seconds him the moment that he entered the drawlong letter, which was, and was meant to heart I am as sure of him as I am of my his countenance had expressed amazement. Ing room and led him off to her boudoir ready to keep his plighted word had it be, susceptible of the interpretation that own existence. So would you be if you dismay, contrition-everything, in short, upon the pretext of showing him some been required of him to break his heart by it might please him to place upon it. Of knew him," she added, quickly, for it that his face or his tongue could have re- photographs of her former home which she doing so. course, in the nature of things, she could seemed to her that she detected a sugges- vealed under an hour of cross-examination, said it might interest him to see. Then, expect no reply for a matter of two tion of pity and incredulity in the other's had there been any need to ask of him that before he could open his lipe, she began:

Nothing is certain save that we shall all arrived, she would have seen soft brown sion, and who at that moment could read which are best forgotten. Oh, you needn't If thou hast banished all his sighs and "Ahs,"

benefited greatly by the voyage. He had returned, and would doubtless be soon within reach. At any rate, a note addressed to his club would certainly be delivered to him. Should she dispatch that note or should she forbear? The question might have been referred to Gladys, only that young lady, who was an early riser, had already gone out shopping, and when she made her appearance at the luncheon hour she herself was in a state of such visible excitement that it was necessary before consulting her to listen to what she had to

say. And what she had to say was: "Oh, Ethel, he has come back! I saw him getting out of a hansom at the door of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Club, and if he had looked my way I believe I should have disgraced myself by rushing across the street to him. I wonder whether it would be disgraceful to send a line to the club? Do

"Not knowing his name, I can't very well conjecture," answered Lady Falconer, smiling good-humoredly, though a sudden, chili cheeks, "but if you don't mind letting me strange and uniting coincidence they were | hear his name it should be easy enough to

The girl blushed and hesistated. "I have was miserably longing for a message from | never told you his name. We have never the scene of hostilities which had hitherto | told one another, have we?" said she. "But been youchsafed to neither. There was, in | I don't really mind your knowing, because addition, this point of similarity in their I am sure that my secret is perfectly safe cases-that both had taken the somewhat | with you. His name is Shute-Captain

Captain Shute's first love received this announcement with an equanimity all the more creditable to her inasmuch as she had had but one moment of preparation for it.

"Of course, you mean Ronald Shute, who, I see by the papers, landed yesterday from South Africa?" she observed. "That is simplest thing in the world for me to ask him to dinner. I dare say you would prefer an apparently accidental meeting, and, indeed, I think that for your sake the meeting had better appear to be acci-

The girl's gratitude was so intense and so innocently joyous that her friend, assaid (very falsely and malevolently, no doubt) that a woman never has more than at any rate, refrained from such extreme measures, and presently she dashed off the following pardonably-perfidious note:

"Dear Captain Shute-I hear that you are once more in England, and I write to say what a great pleasure it would be to me if you would come and dine quite quietly on Wednesday at 8:30, and relate all your thrilling experiences. I have nobody with me, except a young friend, who is charitably sharing my solitude; so I am afraid I can only promise you a rather dull evening. But I count a little upon the privilege of old friendship. Yours, always, "Ethel Falconer."

That, she thought, ought to fetch him, and she did not feel bound to spare him. He was in for an evening which, at all events, would not be dull, though it might very likely, from his point of view, be the reverse of enjoyable. The whole situation was clearly revealed to her. She knew now why he had so precipitately fled the country; she knew why he had left certain letters unanswered, and she appreciated the nature of his dilemma, appreciating also his obvious reluctance to be false to either of the women whose love he had won Well, somebody must invariably suffer, and it must rest with him to make his choice. At the bottom of her heart Ethel Falconer felt little doubt as to what that choice would be, and she was genuinely an operation has to be performed, does not out. kindness to the patient dictate that it

Lady Falconer shook her head. "I don't utilized as circumstances might dictate, was still holding his hostess's outstretched he should reveal more. But there was no



"Hang it! I asked for beer, not coffee."

Digests what you Dyspepsia Gure

to heart talks." The little talks where people get right down to honest reason, to common sense.

You have no doubt at some time or other experienced the annoying and painful symptoms of indigestion. Digestion is the pro-cess by which nature transforms our food, by means of various juices called digestants, into blood which is then carried throughout the body and used to make flesh, muscle, bone, nerve, brain and material of every kind of which the body is composed.

Indigestion may arise from a variety of causes, but generally because some of the elements which make up the digestive juices are lacking.

Undigested food gives you all kinds of

In the first place you have a most distressing feeling in your stomach, especially after eating. Soon this undigested food ferments, the gas distends the stomach, and in its efforts to escape, it causes belching. It also causes a pressure against the nerves and arteries leading to the heart, giving rise in the mind of the sufferer to the idea that he has heart trouble. Nothing could be further

We have heard a great deal about "heart from correct. Most supposed heart trouble is nothing more nor less than indigestion. Of course that is serious enough but you want to know where the seat of the trouble

the stomach but is not digested there, passes into the intestines and bowels where it causes more trouble. The bowels become constipated or "clogged up", the waste matter is not passed off but is to some extent absorbed back in the system. This poisons the blood. Then what can you expect? Can any person think that this poisoned blood can make healthy flesh, healthy bone, healthy kidneys, healthy liver, healthy heart, or a clear, healthy, active brain? Is it any wonder that ninety five per cent of the American people have bodily afflictions? The whole point is this. If people would digest their food properly most human ills would disappear.

You no doubt would cure your indigestion if you knew how, wouldn't you? Certainly. Now if the digestive juices or fluids are lacking but we substitute something composed of exactly the same elements or ingredients, isn't it common sense that the result will be the same? If a certain

combination of elements will completely digest food in a glass tube or in a bottle, under proper conditions, isn't it common sense that the same elements will is, so you can treat it properly.

Again, such food as should be digested in it is; it can't help it. Several years were expended in perfecting a preparation that would do this very thing. The result was Kodol Dyspepsia Cure. It contains every element necessary to the complete and perfect digestion of all classes of food.

> It permits you to eat all the good food you want and digest every particle of it without any aid whatever from the stomach, allowing the digestive organs to rest and regain their normal healthy condition and strength. By digesting all you eat, Kodol Dyspepsia Cure tones up the entire system. It will give you life, health, strength, ambition, a good appetite, sound, healthful sleep and pure, rich blood that will enable nature to correct many ills to which the other organs of your body may be subject.

Kodol Dyspepsia Cure never fails to cure dyspepsia, indigestion and stomach troubles, even after all other medicines have failed. Can there be any possible reason why it

Candid Heart to Heart Talks.

Dear Sirs:—I had suffered for years with stomach trouble and after doctoring with several doctors who did me no good and after being in bed three weeks at one time when I could eat nothing, and my heart troubled me and ached so at times that I thought I was going to die, a friend recom-mended your Kodol Dyspepsia Cure. After I began taking the first bottle, I commenced to improve at once and my appetite began to improve. Now after taking two bottles, I am so that I can eat anything and everything. I cannot recommend too highly the Kodol Dyspepsia Cure to all sufferers with stomach trouble and indigestion, and would say to all that if you will only try it, you will be cured as I am now, after having spent hundreds of dollars with doctors and getting no better, while a few bottles of Kodol Dyspepsia Cure made me well.-Yours most respectfully, Mrs. Julia Hursh, Butte des Morts, Wis.

Dear Sirs:—It gives me great pleasure to write you concerning the good qualities of Kodol Dyspepsia Cure. I had a stomach trouble of four years standing, which was so bad at times I was forced to abandon business and remain in bed.

I had tried physicians and all kinds of dyspensia tablets in vain. At last through the recommendation of my druggist I tried a bottle of Kodol Dyspepsia Cure. The effect was highly gratifying, as I received immediate relief and less than two bottles effected a complete cure.

I never travel without a bottle of Kodol Dyspepsia Cure in my valise. It does the work quickly and thoroughly and I cannot say too much in its praise .- Yours truly Geo. R. Colbath, Alpena, Mich.

Luke J. Collins of East Windsor, New York deposes and says that he has been troubled with dyspepsia for two years, having acidity

of the stomach (heartburn) and indigestion so that he took no comfort from eating any kind of food, but after having tried prescriptions from several physicians without any permanent relief, by taking two bottles of Kodol Dyspepsia Cure he appears to be cured.-Luke J. Collins.

Sworn and subscribed to before me on the 13th day of June, 1901.—Geo. E. Collins, Notary Public.

Gentlemen:-I have sold all the Kodol Dyspepsia Cure I bought of you and ordered twice from the jobber. I recommend on my own accord every bottle of Kodol Dyspepsia Cure I sell and haven't heard of a single complaint. Yours, Jno. P. Isterling, Corydon Junction, Ind.

Dear Sirs:-After seven years of suffering from chronic indigestion, I was finally cured by using three bottles of Kodol Dyspepsia Cure. - Mrs. Annie Alcorn, Meredith.

Prepared by B. C. DeWitt & Co., Chicago. The \$1.00 bottle contains 2% times as much (by actual measurement) as the trial size which sells for 56 cents.

Cures all stomach troubles

to the white-waistcoated guest, who had keep a secret which there cannot be any been spending the day at a race meeting | imaginable object in revealing." and wanted to talk about it. Thus smoothly,

should get over and done as speedily as rassing juncture was certainly admirable; but what was far more so was the courage willingly, forsook her Kentish retreat, she her ladyship, her note could not but be half over, was in evident doubt as to her sighed: welcome to him. Either he still loved her | sincerity, but she ended by convincing him. cerned; yet they clung with touching ed in terms of such commonplace amity of her eye that he profited by them.) She must be of a nature to reassure him. Only, | made the benevolent purpose of that little "Have you written again?" Ethel asked as it seemed likely that he would, in any festivity so plain that the white waistcoat cied myself in love has also come back lished themselves for some little time in presence of a fourth person, Lady Fal- a word of congratulation to her while Capt. coner, as soon as she received his accept- | Shute was engrossed in showing Miss All- | to marry him. Fickle if you like, yet a "No," answered the girl, "I haven't. ance, called in a fourth person-a mere frey how to crack walnuts with a finger ing her young friend with her, she was able

"But what did he say?"

Lady Falconer had no intention of allow-

"I have done you a service, and you must the following morning when the newspapers | were stretched to the point of keenest ten- | please, with reference to bygone passages with them? But perhaps that was what you intended to do when you called that afternoon, and when unluckily I was not at

home?" Ronald Shute looked troubled, for he was an honest man who would fain have kept faith, and he felt that he was cutting but a poor figure. "I don't thing that was what I intended to do," truth compelled him to own. "Of course, after your husband's very sudden and unexpected death I was no longer free, and I couldn't consider myself free until-"

"Until I released you. Well?" "Well, thinking everything over, it seemed to me that a bullet might cut the

knot."

"How romantic of you, and how thoughtlessly thoughtful! But the bullet never came your way." "No; the bullet didn't come my way, nor

did I die of fever, nor did your letter ap-

pear altogether to release me." "I suppose it didn't. I am so sorry. But all's well that ends well. You realize now, anyhow, that I only want you and Gladys to be happy in your own way."

"You-you forgive me, then?" he asked,

hesitatingly and very foelishly "My dear Captain Shute, why in the world should I not? Times do change and so do we. I am not the same person that I was two years ago, nor are you. We can no more help that than we can help the melancholy certainty that we shall be different again two years hence. That, perhaps, makes marriage a rather hazardous experiment, but some risks must needs be run, mustn't they? However, there is one risk which no married man ever runs unless he is both silly and ungenerous, so I am sure I may rely upon you to

Having received his grave assurance that under civilized social conditions do the her confidence was not misplaced, she hassorry for her unwitting rival. Yet, when tragedies of existence work themselves tened to conduct him back to the drawing room, where she presently left him with Lady Falconer's behavior at an embar- Gladys in order that the privilege of inspecting a portfolio of photographs might Of course, the man fell into the trap-if | with which she assimilated the only part | waistcoat. At a later hour of the evening trap it ought to be called. How was he that she could now hope to play with credit she was made the recipient of her young to guess who Lady Falconer's negligible or success. It was a difficult part to play, friend's joyous avowals, and was valiant "young friend" was? And whatever may and she received little help from Ronald enough to respond with what sounded like have been his sentiments with regard to Shute, who, until dinner was more than a perfectly natural laugh when Gladys 11,000,000 square miles of sea, but comprise

"I won't deceive you," she answered; "I ent fashion. The man with whom I fan-But, after seeing him, I no longer propose matter for congratulation all the same. I hope you are not shocked?"

Gladys was a little bit shocked. She con- sented it to the pontiff. fided subsequently to her bethrothed that, although she was very fond of Ethel Falstrong affections-a verdict in which he ruled the Ottoman Empire since the conregretfully concurred. For indeed it is one | quest of Constantinople by the Turks, thir-"He said he had never changed, and that | thing to relinquish illusions and quite aninspire them. What comforted him and over an area of 131/2 acres. They were beset him quite at ease with himself was the knowledge that he would have been [Copyright, 1902.]

The Bride-Elect and the Vase.

If thy meek slave thou would'st not now efface, Bestow some favor on this humble vase; Recall them when thou look'st upon this vase; Forgot his approbation and applause. Whate'er may be the stimulating cause,

Not utterly forget me. -Roswell Field, in Chicago Post. OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

The costliest fur is that of the sea otter. A single skin of this animal will fetch as much as \$1,000. The total vote of Arizona at the last general election was 16,220, of New Mexico 89,-442 and of Oklahoma 73,367.

The total number of students at the universities of Germany this winter is 35.513. as against 34,363 last winter. Five yards in four years is the rate at which the water pouring over the falls of

Niagara wears away the rock beneath. The Polynesian islands are scattered over altogether only 170,000 square miles of land. "Now, if only you could have the good | The telephone service in Sweden is about to be taken in hand by the state, the two telephone companies being bought out for

The average depth of the Texas spouting oil wells is a few feet more than a thousand and the height to which the oil is ejected 60 to 200 feet.

In some parts of Siberla a large part of because there are no means of transport or facilities for storage.

The name Oregon first appears in "Jonathan Carver's Travels," published in Lon- | pal Protestant church organizations shows don about 1778. Possibly it is a corruption a failing off from the year previous and is Of the thirty-eight Sultans who have

The Vatican is not a single building, but other to recognize that one has ceased to an accumulation of buildings, stretching gun about the year 300 and have grown According to the figures of the registrar | sion of ribbons.

general Ireland is still losing in population, the decline for the last year being figured at 31,435. This is entirely accounted for by In Russia the average acre of land, be-

America. This is the official estimate of lature of Louisiana. her minister of finance.

occur he loses his head.

Dr. C. H. Spurgeon, of London, ninety-one | shape them for the purpose in view. volumes of his sermons have been pubhumous books at published price, while a

complete set of his works, not counting the almanaes, would cost, roughly, \$250, not reckoning discounts.

> In France the excise duty is taken off alcohol if it can be shown that it is to be used as fuel for motor cars. For this purpose some highly nauseous compound must be added, making it absolutely unfit to drink.

The world's fair at St. Louis, it is promised, will cover 1,200 acres, at an estimated cost of construction of \$30,000,000. The construction cost of the Paris exposition was \$9,000,000; of the Chicago exposition, \$18,000,-

00; of the Buffalo exposition, \$10,000,000. For many years German emigration has found its chief destination in the United States. About six million people have come from Germany to this country; and they, with their descendants, now constitute a very large element of our total population. No more second-hand corks may be sold in Paris, as the public health committee has discovered that such articles are being collected from all sorts of undesirable places by ragpickers, who after a more or

to the dealers. One Polar expedition is accounted for, Baron Toll's Russian expedition in the Sarja, proceeding from the Siberian coast, The most expensive chair in existence be- attained 77 degrees 32 minutes north latitude longs to the Pope. It is made of solid silver | north of the New Siberian Islands, but was and cost \$80,000. An American banker pre- unable to reach Bennett Island. It is wintering in Verpinsky bay.

less perfunctory cleaning dispose of them

The income during 1901 of the six princitional, \$7,350,000; Episcopal, \$14,856,000; Lutheran, \$8,100,000; Methodist, \$18,951,000; Presbyterian, \$16,338,000.

Ribbon makers on the continent say that their industry has suffered greatly because of the popularity of the bicycle. Women who ride the machine wears hats which have no other trimming than the single band, generally of black, and the picture hat is adorned with feathers, to the exclu-There are two Republicans in the Ala-

bama Legislature, two in the Arkansas Legislature, none in the Florida Legislature, five in the Georgia Legislature, none in the Mississippi Legislature, one in the cause of bad cultivation, produces but one- South Carolina Legislature, none in the fifth the amount produced by an acre in Texas Legislature and none in the Legis-The type of horseshoe common in the

There are some astrologers in China, but | Orient is a plate fitted so as to cover the not many, as astrology is a very perilous entire bottom of the hoof, with a perforaprofession. When one of these so-called | tion in the center. The weight of the averprophets predicts an event which does not age horseshoe is three-fourths of a pound. The native smiths usually cut these plates During the ten years since the death of from sheets of wrought iron and rudely

Great changes have been made among the lished. Not less than \$100 would be required | negroes of German East Africa. They now to purchase one of each of these post- use plates, cups, glasses, saucers, lookingglasses, spoons, knives, umbrellas and occasionally clocks; they call for soap and for kerosene. In their market places they are seen drinking tea with sugar at table. The women have adopted European clothes and make used of sewing machines, even in the interior districts.

STAMP COLLECTING.

One of the Conspicuous Hobbies of Recent Years.

Of the countless hobbles that have sprung up in recent years in response to the de-

mand for some pursuit to take the ordinary man "out of himself" stamp collecting may be said to have gained a leading place. Its claims are indisputable; it appeals alike to the schoolboy and to the millionaire, and it is within the reach of both. The last few years have witnessed an enormous development in philately as a science since stamp collecting first saw the light, about 1854. It knows no politics, for it is decidedly international. Around it has grown up a formidable cluster of technical terms, and it summons to its aid the artist, the chemist, the engraver and the printer. As philately was developed it was only

natural that certain stamps should rise very much in value. And this rise came about not from any remarkable beauty or special feature of the stamps, but from their rarity. Take, for instance, the wellknown "Postoffice Mauritius." These stamps, Id, orange, and 2d dark blue, were lesued in September, 1847. They were engraved by a jeweler at Port Louis, and printed off one at a time. The process was tedlous, and when 500 had been thus produced new plates, each containing twelve stamps of a slightly different design, were engraved and used in 1848. Thus the original "Postoffice Mauritius" must always be extremely rare and command a very bigh price when it comes into the market. In 1862 two sailors carried into the shop of Mr. E. Stanley Gibbons, of Plymouth, & sack containing a large quantity of the Cape of Good Hope triangular stamps, and they sold them for 25. Mr. Stanley Gibbons then sold the rarest varieties of the stamps at half a crown each; in recent years these same stamps have been sold for £70 aplece.



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